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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all of the claims presently in the application and substitute new Claims 13-29 as follows:

Sub B1 → ~~13. (New) A process for the desulfurization of an engine fuel onboard a motor vehicle, comprising:~~

~~contacting an engine fuel comprising sulfur-containing components with a selective liquid-phase adsorption material comprising an oxide of Al, Mg, Si, or Ti that is doped with Ag; and~~

~~separating the sulfur-containing components from the engine fuel, thereby obtaining a low-sulfur fuel.~~

14. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material has an internal surface area of from 10 to 1600 m²/g.

A/4 15. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material comprises at least one of Al₂O₃, MgO, SiO₂, or TiO₂.

16. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material comprises zeolites, hydrotalcites, or mixed oxides doped with Ag.

Sub B2 → ~~17. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material is a biogenic material.~~

Sub. B3
18. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the biogenic material comprises an enzyme or a microorganism.

19. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the engine fuel is selected from the group consisting of petrol, diesel fuel, kerosine, and methanol.

20. (New) A process according to Claim 13, further comprising collecting the low-sulphur fuel in a tank.

21. (New) A process according to Claim 13, further comprising immediately using the low-sulfur fuel.

22. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material is arranged in series with a fuel pump.

23. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material is arranged in a bypass circuit of a fuel pump.

24. (New) A process according to Claim 13, wherein the adsorption material is integrated in a single structural unit with a fuel filter.

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25. (New) A process according to Claim 13, further comprising regenerating a sulfur-containing adsorption material onboard the motor vehicle.

26. (New) A process according to Claim 13, further comprising replacing a sulfur-containing adsorption material.

27. (New) A process according to Claim 25, wherein the regenerating comprises heating the sulfur-containing adsorption material with the engine oil or the engine coolant of the motor vehicle.

28. (New) A process for removing nitrogen oxides from a lean exhaust gas, comprising:

contacting the low-sulfur fuel according to Claim 13 with a catalytic converter; and

removing nitrogen oxides from the lean exhaust gas by using the low-sulfur fuel as a reducing agent.

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29. (New) A process for desulfurizing a catalytic converter in an exhaust-gas after-treatment engine system, comprising regenerating the catalytic converter with low-sulfur fuel obtained according to Claim 13, thereby desorbing accumulated sulfur from the catalytic converter.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the ~~Abstract~~ and substitute the attached Abstract.

REMARKS

Claims 13-29 are pending herein. Entry of the amendments to the specification and claims, as amended by way of Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/EP99/07267, before examination of the application in the U.S. National Phase is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.